(b) what action has been taken against the authorities for withholding the wages for such a long time;

(c) whether Government propose to make payment of arrears of delivery allowance to EDBPMs with interest; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Pending Court Cases of E. D. Employees

2554. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases pending in different Courts in India regarding Extra Departmental employees as on 30th June, 1989;

(b) the number of cases on which the judgements have been delivered by the different courts;

(c) the details of cases on which the judgements have been accepted by Government; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Death of Navy Personnel in Helicopter Crash

2555. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Naval Chetak helicopter crashed near Rameshwaram recently killing some officers and sailors of the Indian Navy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the outcome of the inquiry made into the crash and the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Naval Chetak Helicopter, while on routine patrol sortie, crashed near Mandapam in Tamil Nadu on the 31st May, 1989, killing all the five Naval personnel on board the ill-fated helicopter. A Board of Inquiry is in progress. The findings of the Boards of Injuiry are treated as classified and are not disclosed in the public interest.

Dispute Between AIIMS and Civic Authorities

2556. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Statesman. dated 2nd June, 1989 regarding the unsettled dispute between the AIIMS and the civic authorities regarding responsibility to cover the open drain adjacent to the boundary wall of the AIIMS resulting in appalling unhygenic conditions plaguing the hospital and its surroundings; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to settle this issue which has remained unsettled for a decade regardless of the unhygenic surroundings to the AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) The All India Instltue of Medical Sciences have reported that an open nullah coming from Hauz Khas, Yusuf Sarai towards Kidwai Nagar is passing through the Eastern Campus of the AIIMS. This nullah in addition to

carrying storm water also carries affluents from large areas upstream of the Institute land. The local Civic Bodies i.e. M.C.D., N.D.M.C. and D.D.A. have covered the portion of upstream of Gautam Nagar and also downstream of Ring Road leaving just the portion of nullah running through the Institute land uncovered. The Institute comes under the jurisdiction of N.D.M.C. Since efforts of the AIIMS to get this portion of the nullah covered through concerned Civic Bodies under Delhi Administration did not yield any result, the AIIMS authorities entrusted the job of covering the nalah to the C.P.W.D. as a deposit work in March, 1987. In October, 1987 it was seen that the work on collection of hydraulic data etc. was in progress and it would take considerable time for actual start of work at site. Therefore the amount deposited with the C.P. W.D. was withdrawn to be used elsewhere. It is now proposed to make a provision for this activity in the VIIIth Plan and the estimates for the same have been asked from C.P.W.D. which is collecting the data.

Mandatory Indication of IODINE on Salt Packs

2557. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 860 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 1989 and state:

(a) whether after the imposition of ban by the Delhi Administration on the sale of non-iodised salt, any survey has been made to know whether the iodised salt being sold in the market contains the required quantity of iodine; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware that salt packs do not contain the iodine contents, the date of manufacture/expiry and in most of the cases, the names of the manufactures or the company which pack or market the product; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government against the violation of the mandatory provisions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) Requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Supersession of Army Officers

2558. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Indian Express dated 4th June, 1989 regarding reported resentment in the Army because of alleged supersession of senior Army officers and the delay in making senior appointments therein;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what remedial measures have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The news item has been seen.

(b) and (c) The allegations made in the report are baseless. The senior appointments in the Army are approved by the Central Government. Overall record profile and merit are the crucial factors relevant to selection for senior appointments. Action for such selection is initiated well in advance and all efforts are made to eliminate avoidable delays. Supersession in higher ranks is unavoidable due to the pyramidal structure of the Army organization.

S.T.D. Charges from Delhi during night

2559 SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: